Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park

North Chasm View Wall, Fuzzy Dice. Fuzzy Dice (IV 5.10d/11a) climbs a crack system up the far left side of the North Chasm View Wall (left of the Plunge Pillar, right of the North Pillar). FA: Mike Pennings and myself in one day in the fall.

Jonathan Copp

Hair in My Cheeseburger, CrystalVision. In April Paul Emrick and I headed down the S.O.F.B. Gully on the South Rim of the Black Canyon to try a new route, The route, which shares the start of 2001's Stay Puft Buttress, was done in a day with no bolts. The route was awesome until it became a total bummer. Eight pitches of fine, clean cracks, and then a wrong turn led to bushy, discontinuous choss. The route, Hair in My Cheeseburger, is rated 1,800', IV+ 5.10.

After further research an alternate finish was discovered just right of the Shining Buttress (Ingalls–Kor). In early May Paul Emrick and Brent Mitchell rapped from the rim to establish this four-pitch variation. Paul led a beautiful crystal-covered slab with just three hooks and a hand drill, establishing what would be one of the route's cruxes. He placed three bolts.

On May 30 Paul and I returned to link Hair in My Cheeseburger's lower eight pitches with the four new upper pitches. The second pitch, which had originally been led with no bolts, was deemed really dangerous—a 50' runout on a 5.8 slab with ground-fall potential—so we added a bolt. The runout is now only 25 feet and not as serious. The result is one of the best routes I've done in the Black, easily on par with the Cruise, only a little more serious. We named it CrystalVision (1,800', IV+ 5.11-).

Josh Borof

Great White Wall, Super Wuss and Gouldy Variant. In October Kevin Cochran and I climbed a new route on the eastern side of Fisherman's Gully. Super Wuss (IV 5.11-) tackles the giant red arête just left of the Great White Wall route; it can be seen from Balanced Rock Overlook. The route was climbed clean, without pins or bolts (apart from rappel anchors on the first three pitches left by a previous party). First ascensionists are biased, but I believe Super Wuss to be the best route in the gully. Look for a topo at the North Rim ranger station. In Fall 2000 Chris Basset and I climbed a new, direct finish to the Great White Wall route. The Gouldy Variant, taking the obvious wide system at the top of the cliff where the Great White Wall route traverses off left; consists of two long pitches with difficulties up to 5.10+R.

Josh Wharton, *AAC*

Great White Wall, Death Camas Dihedrals. "Back in the saddle," I mused, as Andy Donson and I took aim at a line across from Balanced Rock Overlook. Yet saddle sores remained several months later. Blackened and battered, I harbored the memory with utter ambivalence—grateful for the ongoing recovery but pained by the cause. Having been thrown and kicked, I was anxious and excited about the day's launch, nearly from water-to-rim. I wanted to reacquaint myself with all that is the Black, with living.

The distinct upper dihedral pitches were striking, adjacent to the arête. Less clear was the

lower half. We approached via Fisherman's Gully on May 11, almost as far down as the turbulent flow and cooler air. The features we hoped for, while engaging, unfolded with relative moderation. After four pitches we ate from the varied greenery of the halfway terrace, where Andy introduced me to a flower I couldn't identify. I reached to bend the slender stem and have a whiff when he suggested I not touch the death camas (toxicoscordion venenosums). Agreed.

The next pitch looked to be a groaner; two obese cracks with an appetite Andy's rack could not satisfy. Rather than grapple and groan he simply stemmed. A traverse left to a solid face up which we wandered was especially pleasurable. The prominent corner and arête remained. The final length of the dihedral, overhanging in places, had us toeing our way up a pinnacle on the arête. Position and climbing were equally exhilarating. Fortune had found us today. Death Camas Dihedrals (IV+ 5.10R/X).

TERRY MURPHY, *AAC*

South Chasm Wall, Burlgirl. In March Mike Shepherd and I had a vision of free climbing Bull Girl (5.11 A4). We thought we'd need a lot of time to clean and find a way to free the aid, so we spent two nights on the 2,000' climb. Three pitches up we face-climbed to the left for one pitch and gained a steep dihedral system, which gave us three variant pitches to the original A2+ section of Bull Girl. Mike led a steep, overhanging fist and offwidth corner to a ledge (5.11+). The next pitch was an arrow-straight corner with an RP seam that took just enough gear and provided just enough edges to go free at 5.12a. A steep face with incut crimps led us back onto Bull Girl. Following Bull Girl till the next A4, we found exciting steep corners, roofs, and face-climbing.

On our third day we were faced with finding a way past this hard A4 pitch. I traversed 50 feet out of the corner, hammered in two shady pins, climbed into a technical face section (5.11), and stopped at a stance where I could drill. Past this bolt I climbed more technical face, with 40' runouts on 5.11 and 5.10 climbing, finding just enough funky gear placements till I found a solid crack for a belay. Four more pitches, and we arrived at the summit. We had cleaned several sections of the climb but didn't complete the route all free.

In October Topher Donahue and I returned to the Black and completed the route, all free with no falls, in a day. Mike was unavailable but will return soon to try his own free ascent. Seven pitches are 5.11 and one 5.12, with several 5.10s and 5.9s. It's a fun route, but you have to be ready for serious runouts. We added three bolts: on the first traverse pitch, on the crux traverse, and on the 5.11X pitch. We climbed four new pitches and freed the pitches of Bull Girl we climbed to come up with Burlgirl (V 5.12-X).

JARED OGDEN, *AAC*

Wyoming

Enclosure, Prospect of an End. Sune Tamm-Buckle ("The Young Swede") and I departed late for a bivy in the moraine, where we proceeded to "get dizzy." Sune, bringing only a bivy sack, shivered the night away while I slept, warm and cozy in my down bag.

We woke at 3 a.m. on September 1, made our way to the Lower Saddle, crossed the Valhalla Traverse, and arrived at the Enclosure Couloir at 6 a.m. to find it, despite popular opinion, full of ice. We climbed three 60m pitches up the couloir, with some simul-climbing, and arrived at